

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated January 31, 2006, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims.

Claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 11, 13 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102, on the basis of the newly-cited Grealish patent (US 6,711,715). Claims 2, 3, 7-9, 12, 14, 15, 18 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103, on the basis of the Grealish patent in view of the Unger et al patent. It is respectfully submitted that the Grealish patent neither anticipates, nor otherwise suggests, the subject matter of the currently pending claims, whether considered by itself or in combination with the Unger patent.

In relevant part, the rejection refers to the displays depicted in Figures 2a to 2e of the Grealish patent. These displays illustrate a list of records from a database. Thus, for example, Figure 2a illustrates a display containing columns corresponding to the Country, State, City, Population and Capital fields of the database. In other words, the display contains the data from the database records themselves.

In contrast, the user interface recited in the pending claims is not so much concerned with the actual data stored in the database itself, but rather statistical information *about* the contents of the database. For instance, the disclosed embodiment of the invention pertains to information about patents. Referring to the exemplary user interface of Figure 6, it can be seen that the patents themselves are not being displayed. Rather, statistical information about those patents is provided, in the form of a spreadsheet user interface. In the illustrated example, the statistical information comprises the number of patents that are grouped in each of a variety of designated categories.

It is respectfully submitted that the Grealish patent does not disclose the display of this type of statistical information about the contents of a database, and therefore does not anticipate the pending claims.

A further feature of the invention is represented in the example of Figure 7. In this example, the user has selected one of the cells in the spreadsheet illustrated in Figure 6. Upon checking box 625, citation information pertaining to the patents represented by the selected cell is displayed in the spreadsheet of Figure 7. This aspect of the invention is recited in new claim 21.

It is respectfully submitted that this claimed feature is not suggested by either of the Grealish or Unger patents. As acknowledged in the Office Action, the Grealish patent does not relate to the display of information about patents, and therefore cannot be interpreted to suggest this further feature of displaying citation information about patents represented in a user interface. Similarly, the Unger patent does not disclose such information.

In this regard, it is noted that the rejection of claims 7 and 18 refers to Figure 1 and column 5, lines 17-25 of the Unger patent, and states "the parsing of patent literature includes the determination of citations". However, Applicant is unable to find any support in the cited portions of the patent for this statement. At column 5, lines 17-25, the Unger patent talks about data such as inventors, patent numbers, assignee, legal status and priority data. However, there is no reference to citations in a patent, and more particularly to the display of information about citations.

Referring again to Figure 6 of the present application, another feature of the user interface is the display of description of the classifications represented by the rows of the spreadsheet. This aspect of the invention is recited in new claim 22. It is

respectfully submitted that this claimed subject matter is not disclosed in either of the Grealish or Unger patents.

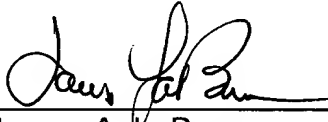
For at the least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are patentably distinct from the references of record.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL PC

Date: May 31, 2006

By: 
James A. LaBarre
Registration No. 28,632

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620